

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A stylus, comprising a stem; and a break-off region provided in the stem and consisting of a changed structure of a stem material.
2. A stylus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the break-off region is formed along a circumference of the stem.
3. A stylus as set forth in claim 2, wherein a diameter of the stem in the break-off region remains substantially unchanged.
4. A stylus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the stem is formed of a hard metal.
5. A method of manufacturing a stylus, comprising the steps of forming a stem; and providing in the stem a predetermined break-off region by heat treating a region of the stem, in which the predetermined break-off region should be formed to change structure of a stem material in this region without any substantial removal of the stem material.

6. A method as set forth in claim 5 wherein heat treatment comprises irradiating the region of the stem, in which the predetermined break-off region is to be formed, with a laser beam.

7. A coordinate-measuring machine, comprising a touch probe; and a stylus connectable to the touch probe and including a stem, and a break-off region provided in the stem and consisting of a changed structure of a stem material.